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## SENATOR WAYNE ALLARD ENDORSES OIL SHALE DEVELOPMENT LEGISLATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado), Chairman of the Congressional Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Caucus, said at a Capitol press conference today that development of America's oil shale resources has a very significant role to play in the nation's effort to achieve energy self sufficiency.

"I am supporting Senator Hatch's efforts to encourage oil shale development because I believe our smartest strategy is to develop, as rapidly as we can, more diversified domestic energy sources," Senator Allard said. "Our economic well being, as well as our national security, is at stake."

"New technologies have made the development of oil shale more environmentally friendly, and more economically feasible -- especially in light of what we are currently paying for a barrel of imported oil," Senator Allard said.

"Testing in western Colorado has produced a light crude suitable to fill our demand for jet fuel, and similar pure fuels, with very little surface treatment," he said.

"As Chairman of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Caucus, a bi-partisan caucus with 34 members, I am convinced that our energy plan should involve oil shale, as well as solar, wind, biomass, and geothermal, along with traditional sources such as coal and natural gas," the Senator said.

"We need to continue moving forward with a sense of urgency, and, to that end, I am pleased to support Senator Hatch's efforts to formulate comprehensive legislation," the Senator said. "Projects of this magnitude take years to develop – this legislation will help to begin to move the process forward."